From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by the Auto Alliance: Amazon Tells Employees It Feels "Really Great" About Facial ID Software"s Value to Law Enforcement
Date: Friday, November 9, 2018 5:52:56 AM

By Edward Graham

Top Stories

- Amazon.com Inc. defended the company's efforts to aggressively market its facial recognition technology, called Rekognition, to U.S. law enforcement agencies and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement during an all-staff meeting, with Andy Jassy, chief executive of the company's Amazon Web Services cloud-computing unit, responding to employee concerns by saying the company felt "really great and really strongly about the value" Rekognition provides, and noting that it was the government's responsibility to craft regulations surrounding the technology. (BuzzFeed News)

- Rob Joyce, senior adviser for cybersecurity strategy at the National Security Agency, said during a panel conversation at the Aspen Cyber Summit that

China has violated a 2015 bilateral agreement it signed with the United States in which the country pledged to not engage in hacking for the purpose of economic espionage, adding that "it is clear they are well beyond the bounds of the agreement today." (The Wall Street Journal)

- The Walt Disney Co. said during its quarterly earnings call that its upcoming streaming service, one of the company's latest efforts to compete with direct-to-consumer products such as Netflix Inc., will be called Disney+ and is set to launch late next year. (NBC News)

Chart Review

From the 116th Congress to 2020
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

FRIDAY

Free State Foundation book discussion, "A Reader on Net Neutrality and Restoring Internet Freedom"	11:45 a.m.

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General

White House Expects to Hold Steady on Tech Policies Despite House Flip
Jack Corrigan, Nextgov

Top White House advisers on Thursday said the administration will continue its approach to federal IT modernization and minimal tech regulation despite Democrats taking control of the House in Tuesday's midterms. But on Capitol Hill, Democratic leaders are gearing up to fight for measures that directly clash with the White House's hands-off approach to the tech industry.

At China's Internet Conference, a Darker Side of Tech Emerges
Raymond Zhong, The New York Times

Every year at the World Internet Conference, held since 2014 in the photogenic canal town of Wuzhen near Shanghai, companies and government officials have convened to send a message: China is a high-tech force to be reckoned with. With that message now settled beyond much doubt, this year's conference showcased something different.

San Francisco's Prop C homelessness tax was a big win for Marc Benioff, but legal challenges may be coming
Shirin Ghaffary, Recode

Tuesday night was considered a sweeping victory for supporters of San Francisco's homelessness tax, Proposition C, after the measure won 60 percent of the popular vote. But it looks as though the battle has only just begun.

Google AI helps NYT get a handle on 5 million photo archive
Stephen Shankland, CNET

Google's computer brains are helping The New York Times turn a historic archive of more than 5 million photos into digital data that'll appear in the newspaper's features about history. The newspaper's "morgue" has 5 million to 7 million photos dating back to the 1870s, including prints and contact sheets showing all the shots on photographers' rolls of film.

World's first AI news anchor unveiled in China
Lily Kuo, The Guardian

China's state news agency Xinhua this week introduced the newest members of its newsroom: AI anchors who will report "tirelessly" all day every day, from

anywhere in the country. Chinese viewers were greeted with a digital version of a regular Xinhua news anchor named Qiu Hao.

New Jersey Outlaws Untraceable 'Ghost Guns,' 3-D Printing of Firearms
Elise Young, Bloomberg

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy broadened one of the nation's toughest gun laws with a ban on untraceable firearms, including those manufactured on three-dimensional printers. The bill signing, before an audience of anti-gun activists in Trenton, had been scheduled before a mass shooting Wednesday night at a Thousand Oaks, California, bar that left at least a dozen people dead.

Stocks Fall on Oil, China Concerns; Dollar Gains: Markets Wrap
Natasha Doff, Bloomberg

U.S. equity-index futures fell for a second day as crude oil's slide into a bear market and concerns over the health of China's economy weighed on global stocks. The dollar continued its advance after the Federal Reserve stayed on track for a December rate hike.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

The 'Wild West' no longer: House Dems eye Silicon Valley crackdown
David Ingram, NBC News

Democrats' takeover of the House is likely to result in even more hearings into the power of big tech companies - just on different subjects than Republicans are interested in. Experts in technology policy said that they expect Democratic lawmakers, including incoming House committee chairs, to ramp up questions about data privacy, antitrust enforcement and the role of companies such as Facebook and Google in elections.

Silicon Valley's Nemesis Explains Her Philosophy
Valentina Pop, The Wall Street Journal

European Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager has become a household name in Silicon Valley since she ordered Apple Inc. to pay $14.5 billion in alleged unpaid taxes to Ireland and fined Alphabet Inc.'s Google a

total of $7.8 billion for allegedly abusing its dominance to clobber rivals. In June, President Donald Trump referred to her as the EU's "tax lady" and said she "really hates the U.S."

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Disney Earnings Top Projections Thanks to 'Incredibles 2,' Theme Parks
Brent Lang, Variety

The box office success of "Incredibles 2" and "Ant-Man and the Wasp," combined with the popularity of the Walt Disney Company's theme parks, bolstered quarterly earnings at the Hollywood conglomerate. Diluted earnings per share for the fourth quarter increased 37% to $1.55, while revenues climbed 12% to $14.3 billion.

Comcast-NBCU Warns FCC That Alliance C-Band Plan Puts Fox in Hen House
John Eggerton, Broadcasting and Cable

Comcast-NBCU has made it clear it has major problems with satellite operators' "market-based" proposal to redistribute C-Band spectrum the FCC is trying to repurpose for 5G, suggesting the FCC would be putting the Fox in charge of the hen house. The C-Band Alliance, comprising fixed satellite service operators, said last week that its proposal to negotiate secondary-market agreements for up to 200 MHz of C-band spectrum, is the win-win solution the FCC is looking for.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Facebook removed 14 million pieces of terrorist content this year, and the numbers are rising
Devin Coldewey, TechCrunch

Facebook must exert constant vigilance to prevent its platform from being taken over by ne'er-do-wells, but how exactly it does that is only really known to itself. Today, however, the company has graced us with a bit of data on what tools it's using and what results they're getting - for instance, more than 14

million pieces of "terrorist content" removed this year so far.

Google Picks Geisinger CEO to Oversee Health-Care Initiatives
Jared S. Hopkins, The Wall Street Journal

Google is expected to name a prominent hospital-system chief executive to a newly created role overseeing the technology company's health-care efforts. David Feinberg is moving to the new Google health-care post after leading the Geisinger health system, which includes a health plan and hospital system operating in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Google in China: When 'Don't Be Evil' Met the Great Firewall
Mark Bergen, Bloomberg

If you're planning on moving to China anytime soon, here's a piece of advice: Get yourself a WeChat account. Open up the "super app," as it's known in China, and you can do almost anything: Pay your cab fare, order from a five-star restaurant, buy fruit from a street vendor, or even give alms to a panhandler-they often wear QR codes slung around their necks.

Ford joins micro-mobility revolution by purchasing e-scooter start-up Spin
Peter Holley, The Washington Post

Some of the biggest names in Silicon Valley have jumped into the electronic scooter business as it has rapidly grown from experimental West Coast start-ups to a multibillion-dollar industry competing in cities around the world. Now one of America's best-known automakers is jumping in the mix.

Apple boosts land holdings to more than 7,000 acres
Tim Bradshaw, Financial Times

Apple has almost tripled the amount of land it owns over the past two years, as the company makes purchases of vast tracts across the US for data centres and solar farms that can also help secure lucrative tax breaks. The iPhone maker's annual report, published earlier this week, revealed that Apple owns 7,376 acres of land, up from 4,928 last year and 2,583 in 2016.

Yelp tanks more than 28% after announcing third quarter earnings
Sara Salinas and Waverly Colville, CNBC

Shares of Yelp tanked more than 28 percent Thursday after the company

announced its third quarter earnings report. The company reported revenue of $241 million for the quarter, just shy of analyst projections of $245 million.

Dropbox tops revenue, profit estimates; shares rise
Munsif Vengattil, Reuters

Dropbox Inc on Thursday reported better-than-expected third quarter results and forecast current-quarter revenue above analysts' estimates, as the file sharing and storage firm benefits from an expanded customer base that pays more. The company's shares rose 8 percent to $26.75 in extended trading.

Twitter co-founder Ev Williams says in retrospect that showing how many followers you have wasn't 'healthy'
Theodore Schleifer, Recode

Twitter today has a health problem. And one of its first CEOs has a few ideas about some early decisions that caused it.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

DNC tech chief says no successful hacking attempts were seen in the midterms
Hadas Gold, CNN

Two years after a campaign marred by hacking, the Democratic National Committee's chief technology officer thinks they may have avoided a similar situation in the 2018 midterm elections. In his first interview after the midterm elections at the Web Summit conference, Raffi Krikorian told CNN Business they "didn't hear much" on Election Day - but said the DNC remains on alert for trouble.

North Korean hacker group poses 'serious threat to the banking sector,' security firm says
Olivia Beavers, The Hill

A North Korean-linked hacking group increasingly is carrying out financially motivated attacks, suggesting that cyber heists are now one of its main activities in cyberspace, according to a new Symantec report. The global cyber firm said in a Thursday blog post that the Lazarus Group is a danger to the banking sector after it carried out a series of "FASTCash" attacks, including

targeting ATMs in dozens of countries since at least 2016.

What an unhacked election means for election security
Joe Uchill, Axios

No one appears to have hacked the 2018 midterm elections. That's pretty good!

A Message from the Auto Alliance:

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Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

After Paying Off Men Accused of Sexual Harassment, Google Says It Will Meet Many of the Protesters' Demands
Kara Swisher, The New York Times

One, they said, was a "good guy." Another didn't deserve to have his life ruined because of his indiscretion.

Why San Jose Kids Do Homework in Parking Lots
Sam Liccardo, The New York Times

More than 10.7 million low-income households in the United States lack access to quality internet service. In cities like San Jose, Calif., local governments are using streetlight poles to facilitate equitable access to high-speed internet to dramatically improve educational outcomes for low-income students and expand economic opportunity for their families.

Pulling Back From the Online Brink
David P. Deavel, The Wall Street Journal

Harold Nicolson once remarked of the critic Hugh Trevor-Roper, "among the strings of his lute there is a wire of hate which is apt to twang suddenly with the rasp of a banjo." Trevor-Roper supposedly once met a reviewee at a conference,

found that he liked him-and decided not to go to conferences anymore.

Research Reports

FASTCash: How the Lazarus Group is Emptying Millions from ATMs
Symantec Corp.

On October 2, 2018, an alert was issued by US-CERT, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Treasury, and the FBI. According to this new alert, Hidden Cobra (the U.S. government's code name for Lazarus) has been conducting "FASTCash" attacks, stealing money from Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) from banks in Asia and Africa since at least 2016.

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